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ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CONE-00 EB-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 SY-05 AID-05 OC-06 CCO-00
NCT-01 L-03 IO-13 NSC-05 /077 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5650

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, ELAB, AR
SUBJECT: WORKER DETAINEES AND DISAPPEARED

REF: BUENOS AIRES 2677

1. FRENCH EMBASSY HAS PASSED US "AN INCOMPLETE LIST OF WORKERS DETAINED OR DISAPPEARED AS OF MARCH 15, 1978" COMPILED BY THE "LIGA ARGENTINA POR LOS DERECHOS DEL HOMBRE." WE COUNT 1142 NAMES ON THE LIST, BROKEN DOWN BY UNION OR LABOR SECTOR AND INCLUDING DATES OF DISAPPEARANCES OR DETENTIONS AND THE CURRENT PLACE OF DETENTION IF KNOWN. IT IS A CUMULATIVE LIST REGISTERING DISAPPEARANCES AND DETENTIONS RANGING FROM FEBRUARY 1974 TO JANUARY 1978. A RAPID PERUSAL REVEALS ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OF DUPLICATIONS WITHIN THE LIST. THERE ARE VERY FEW PROMINENT TRADE UNION LEADERS OR CELEBRATED HUMAN RIGHTS CASES IN THE LIST. MOST APPEAR TO BE SIMPLE RANK-AND-FILE WORKERS AND MANY ARE FROM CITIES OTHER THAN BUENOS AIRES. OVER HALF OF THOSE LISTED COME FROM THE FOLLOWING LABOR SECTORS (IN ORDER OF

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MAGNITUDE): METAL WORKERS, COMMERCIAL

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FROM DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 4/20/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
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EMPLOYEES, TEACHERS, RAILROAD WORKERS AND JOURNALISTS. WHILE WE HAVE NOT YET CONSULTED OUR LABOR SOURCES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE LIST, WE PRESUME THAT THE MAJORITY OF THOSE LISTED ARE SHOP STEWARDS AND OTHER PLANT-LEVEL LABOR ACTIVIST SUSPECTED OF INVOLVEMENT IN TERRORIST OR SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES.

2. UNTIL OUR RECEIPT OF THIS LIST WE HAD ABOUT 300 NAMES OF TRADE UNION DETAINEES AND DISAPPEARED OBTAINED FROM SPECIAL "LABOR LISTS" (I.E. NOT INCLUDING THE AISC LIST.) SOME OF THE 300 APPEAR IN THE LIGA LIST. WE ALSO NOTE THAT THE LIGA LIST DOES NOT INCLUDE THE 19 CERAMIC WORKERS RUMORED TO HAVE DISAPPEARED IN NOVEMBER 1977 (REFTEL).

3. WE ARE FORWARDING TWO COPIES OF THE LIGA LIST VIA POUCH TO ARA/ECA'S DUMPUS (ONE FOR HA).

4. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT THE WORKERS' LIST AND A SIMILAR LIST OF 145 DISAPPEARED AND DETAINED LAWYERS AND JUDGES ARE AN EFFORT BY THE LIGA TO FOCUS INTERNATIONAL LABOR AND LEGAL ORGANIZATION ATTENTION ON THE ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION. CASTRO

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